

Las Fiestas (Holidays)

There are many holiday festivals celebrated in Spain throughout the year, but some are more famous than others. In Pamplona each July the festival of *San Fermín* draws thousands of Spaniards and tourists to see and often times to run with the bulls that go to be fought in the ring each day. In March, Valencia celebrates the *Fallas de San José*. Artists spend all year making huge paper maché models of people. These are displayed in squares and plazas all over the city. During *Semana Santa* (Holy Week) in Seville, holy statues and crucifixes are carried on floats through the streets while sorrowful hymns are sung. Also in Seville in April is the *Feria de abril*, even more colorful and noisy than *Semana Santa*. Far into the night people sing and dance to flamenco music using guitars and castanets.

